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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/066,808      | 02/04/2002  | Johannes Lechner     | U 013863-3          | 4773             |

7590 11/15/2005

Ladas & Parry  
26 West 61st Street  
New York, NY 10023

EXAMINER

BUI, HUNG S

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

2841

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/066,808

Applicant(s)

LECHNER, JOHANNES

Examiner

Hung S. Bui

Art Unit

2841

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --****Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 2-24 and 41 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 25-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 25-29 and 32-35, 37-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gregory [US 4,710,419] in view of Kimura [EP0511014A1] and Variot [US-5,570,272].

Regarding claims 25-29 and 32, Gregory disclose an electrically conductive track unit (figures 1-10) comprising at least one plastics embedded conductive track foil (30, 31, figure 1), wherein the conductive track foil is accommodated by a plastic casing (207, column 7, line 60), and an injection molded plastics material around the foil, the foil is being fabricated by the plastics material during injection molding (abstract).

Gregory discloses the instant claimed invention except for the casing being formed by injection molded plastic material and around the conductive track and stiffening element.

Kimura discloses an electrical enclosure (figure 1) having at least one printed circuit board (14, 15), being accommodated with a stiffening/casing element (2), wherein the stiffening/casing element (as claim 29) being fabricated by the plastics material during injection molding (abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the stiffening/casing element design of Kimura in Gregory, for the purpose of providing strengthening of the electrical enclosure.

Variot discloses an electronic package (figure 3) having at least one electrical component (202) embedded (as claims 26-27) in a stiffening/casing element (212, 214, figure 3) and being filled with an injection molded material (300a).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to fill an injection molded material between the printed circuit board and the stiffening/casing of Gregory, as modified, as suggested by Variot, for the purpose of providing rigidity of the electrical enclosure.

Regarding claims 33 and 37, Kimura further discloses the electrical enclosure having a plurality of spacers (figure 1) provided and embedded within the stiffening/casing.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the spacer design of Kimura in Gregory, as modified, as suggested by Kimura, for the purpose of providing alignment the casing during the assembly.

Regarding claims 34 and 38, Gregory, as modified, disclose the instant claimed invention except for the spacer being a knob shaped.

The specific of the spacer element being a knob shaped would have been an obvious design consideration based on the type of the favor manufacture intended to be used for production.

Regarding claim 35, the method step would be inherent in the product structure.

3. Claims 30, 36 and 39-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gregory, as modified, as applied to claim 29 above, and further in view of [EP 07008583].

Regarding claims 30, 36 and 39-40, Gregory discloses the conductive track foil can be electrical contact through at least one opening/window (290, 291).

Gregory discloses the instant claimed invention except for the opening/window being formed on the casing.

EP0708583 discloses an electronic device (figure 1) including at least one opening/window (12) to provide an additional housing to cover a plurality of electrical web-projections contacted with the conductive track within the electrical device (figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the opening/window design of the EP0708583 with the enclosure of Gregory, as modified, for the purpose of enabling electrical connection.

4. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gregory, as modified, as applied to claim 29 above, and further in view of Okuaki [US 4,814,943].

Regarding claim 31, Gregory, as modified, disclose the instant claimed invention except for the casing including a hood shaped receiving means accommodating a component.

Okuaki discloses an electrical device (figures 1-5) having a casing (48b), wherein the casing includes a hood shaped receiving means (48a) accommodating a component being mounted on conductive track foil on a printed circuit board (21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to created a hood shaped receiving means in Gregory, as modified, as suggested by Okuaki, in order to seal component on the printed circuit board.

### ***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S. Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-2102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

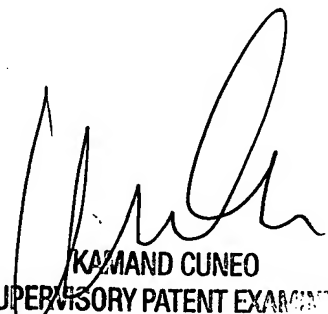
Art Unit: 2841

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

10/26/05

**Hung Bui**

**Art Unit 2841**



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